

60' Climbing Tower

I am writing to each of you to request your assistance at Hawk Mt. This year was the 50th anniversary of the Ranger Program and much has happened in the past few years at the Mt. We have had a major building program, replacing the old trailers with eight new offices, a new shower facility, a new chapel, and improvements on the obstacle course. The old tower that we all trained on and climbed is gone – a victim of old age like many of us. But that tower was a big part of the mountain, it provided us with one more challenge to overcome and now it is gone. Our program has grown as well and there is now a need for a new commercial climbing tower so that we can train High Angle Rescue and all of the other rope skills that are part of our program.

This past summer school we had many of our former belts and members return to the mountain for the anniversary get together. It was great to sit and reminisce about old times, what we had made of our lives and how the program helped each of us in our lives. But many of you were unable to make it and to see all that the mountain has become. It is not the place you remember in many regards. It has become a very professional school that is rated as the top special activity in Civil Air Patrol. Our staff has more than 600 years of combined experience and we are setting up regional Ranger Schools across the country. The National Commander at this past National Board Meeting authorized the program nationwide with the wearing of the Ranger Uniform being fully recognized.

What I need now is your help. We began raising money for the tower and have had great success so far. We received fantastic support from all of those that returned to Hawk for the 50th with their generous donations and we received a commitment from National Headquarters to also provide some funding towards the tower.

Building a 60-ft commercial grade climbing tower is not a cheap venture, but we are on our way to our seventy thousand dollar goal. Most of the funds raised so far have come from the past and present belts of the program and from current staff members, I know that there is not one of us that has not benefited from this program either in our personal lives or in our professional lives. I also believe that we owe back, and we need to ensure that the students at Hawk today receive the same benefits that have helped us in our lives. The tower will be a multi-faceted training facility. It will be fully lighted with multiple levels for assorted skills training. The tower will also house the new slide-for-life that was part of the obstacle course.

Hawk Mountain Ranger Staff Training is one of the foremost leadership schools and has played a very big part in sending many of our graduates on to the Military, to Law Enforcement, to Medical Fields, Business and to Education. The challenges that we endured at Hawk made us better prepared to take on just about anything that came our way and to succeed. I am issuing you another challenge, help me to make this new tower a reality for those young men and women who are currently learning and taking up the challenge of Hawk Mountain.

We need to start construction soon so that the tower facility will be completed prior to this upcoming summer school. All donations are tax deductible and everyone will receive a letter from Wing covering the donation. Please don't delay, I need to get the contractor locked up so that we can make this happen, but I need to have the funds to go forward.

I need everyone's support on this venture, please don't delay

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has already contributed to the tower and to those of you that will hopefully be helping to make the new tower a reality. Anyone who has any questions concerning this project, the school or the program, please feel free to give me a call at 301-607-6124.

I challenge each of you to donate! We need to show our support of our program! To date we have received over \$20,000.00 in donations and more in pledges. However, we need \$72,000.00 in order to be able to complete this project.

Mail Donations to:
Pennsylvania Wing Headquarters, CAP
Hawk Mt Ranger School
Building 3-108
Fort Indiantown Gap
Annville PA 17003

Checks should be made payable to: Hawk Mt Ranger School, CAP, please note in the memo section of your check; Tower Fund.

Donations of \$500.00 or more will receive a limited edition engraved gold tone commemorative 50th Anniversary "Challenge Coin" and be named on the dedication plaque.

Once again, thank you for supporting the Hawk Mountain Ranger School, and PA Wing CAP.

Thanks for Your Support,
Herb